



IFW

03500.017678.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
YUKIYOSHI HIKICHI, ET AL.)
Application No.: 10/827,255)
Filed: April 20, 2004)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS)
FOR TREATING RECORDING)
MEDIUM PROVIDED WITH RFID)
CHIP) Date: October 28, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,878,198
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,381,418
- (3) U.S. Application Publication No. 2001/0008002
- (4) U.S. Application Publication No. 2002/0186390
- (5) U.S. Application Publication No. 2003/0164971
- (6) U.S. Application Publication No. 2004/0070790
- (7) JP 2001-143026
- (8) JP 2001-088911
- (9) JP 2002-056421
- (10) JP 2002-337426
- (11) JP 2003-029667

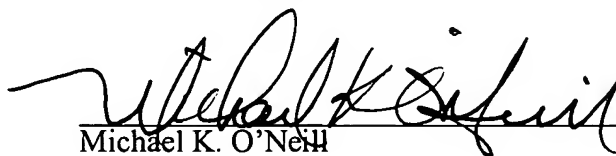
Documents (8) to (11) were cited during prosecution of PCT application PCT/JP03/13533, which corresponds to the above-identified U.S. application. A copy of the International Search Report for PCT/JP03/13533 is enclosed.

In addition, English-language abstracts for cited Japanese documents (7) to (9) are enclosed. Also, document (2) is believed to be a U.S. counterpart patent for Japanese document (7). The English-language abstracts and U.S. counterpart patent are believed to provide an explanation of relevance of Japanese documents (7) to (11) to the subject application.

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

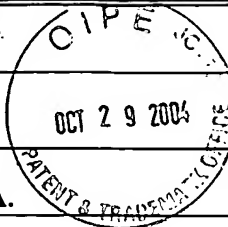
Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael K. O'Neill", is written over a horizontal line.

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017678.		APPLICATION NO. 10/827,255		
				APPLICANT YUKIYOSHI HIKICHI, ET AL.				
				FILING DATE April 20, 2004		GROUP N.Y.A.		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		5,878,198	03/99	Yuasa, et al.	395	117		
		6,381,418	04/02	Spurr, et al.	396	310		
		2001/0008002	07/01	H. Katsuhiko	710	240		
		2002/0186390	12/02	Hara	358	1.9		
		2003/0164971	09/03	Kidani, et al.	358	1.13		
		2004/0070790	04/04	Hara	358	1.16		
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT	
		2001-143026	05/01	Japan			Abstract	
		2001-088911	04/01	Japan			Abstract	
		2002-056421	02/02	Japan			Abstract	
		2002-337426	11/02	Japan			Abstract	
		2002-029667	01/03	Japan			Abstract	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
		European Search Report						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.